

POLICE FIRE CITIZEN'S TASK FORCE
July 22, 2009 – 6:00 p.m.
4th Floor Conference Room, Busch Municipal Building

PRESENT: Jerry Fenstermaker – Chairman, Jerry Harmison - Vice-Chairman, Lorenzo Baldwin, Mary Beth Daniels, Gordon Elliott, Carl Herd, Ken Homan, Danny Hyde, James Jeffries, Bob Jones, Peggy Kubicek, Charles Munsey, David Trippe, Craig Wagoner, Lloyd Young

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS: Nick Ibarra

CITY STAFF LIAISONS: Greg Burris – City Manager, Evelyn Honea – Deputy City Manager, Collin Quigley – Assistant City Manager, Dan Wichmer - City Attorney, Chief Lynn Rowe – Police, Louise Whall - Director of Public Information, Kathy Hardt - City Manager's Office

ABSENT: Bob Horton

Mr. Jerry Fenstermaker called meeting to order. Minutes from July 15 meeting were reviewed by Committee. Mr. Bob Jones made a motion to accept minutes. Mr. Danny Hyde seconded. Minutes approved.

Mr. Fenstermaker presented a handout of questions from citizens submitted to the City's website. As these come in, Mr. Fenstermaker stated he would work with City staff to have these questions answered.

Mr. Fenstermaker reviewed the Task Force schedule of upcoming meetings:
July 30 – 6:30 p.m. - Town Hall Meeting - Art Museum Auditorium
August 5 – 6:00 p.m. - Presentation to City Council with Q & A – Council Chambers
August 10 – 6:00 p.m. – Final Presentation to City Council - Council Chambers

Mr. Greg Burris updated the Task Force on the costs and issues with migrating Tier 1 employees to LAGERS system. He said City staff contacted Milliman to discuss this option. Milliman stated it would be very difficult to do a comprehensive single study and give one lump sum number without looking at individual comparisons. Therefore, they agreed Milliman would do a “pilot” study, where Milliman will randomly choose 8-10 employees and create a sampling comparison of Tier 1 and LAGERS L-11 to determine what that gap would be as well as what issues would be associated with doing this type of migration. Milliman plans to have this information back to City staff by early next week.

Mr. Fenstermaker discussed the proposal regarding the disability policy that was presented by Dr. Lloyd Young (document attached). He has asked Mr. Homan to address these issues at next meeting.

Mr. Carl Herd presented to the Task Force “Unaddressed reasons for a generation of deficits in the Springfield Police/Firemen’s pension plan” (document attached).

The following motion was made by Mr. Herd: 1) Give Tier 1 and Tier 2 employees a \$100 per month raise in lieu of pay raises; 2) Do not ask voters for any sales tax increase for 2 years, then only if needed; 3) Place all Tier 1 employees into Tier 2 plan. Mr. Gordon Elliott seconded motion. **Failed with a vote of (1 Yes and 13 No).**

The Task Force reviewed the positives and negatives from the Town Hall meeting on July 21. Many suggested the presentation be shorter. Mr. Fenstermaker stated he will to reduce the Powerpoint presentation to fewer slides and present in less time.

Mr. Trippe stated there was confusion from people in the audience regarding the 52% of the City budget – and are misunderstanding the City’s portion of that. He also noted the Powerpoint presentation from the City regarding the total sales tax rate compared to surrounding communities was a slide he would recommend the Task Force adds to their presentation. This will help the community understand that the City’s sales tax rate was already comparably low, and with a new sales tax, would remain a low comparable tax rate.

Mr. Homan stated the disability pool with all LAGERS was not addressed and should be.

Mr. Homan made a presentation on behalf of the Pension Board (document attached). In attendance to answer questions were Pension Board members David Hall, Ken Hoffman, Jim McCullough, and David Carter. He reviewed Controlling Ordinances, Fiduciary Education Review and Annual Report to City Council.

Mr. Fenstermaker stated there would be no scheduled meeting next Wednesday.

Dr. Young asked for clarification of when should the Task Force answer questions at the Town Hall meetings, and at what point does the Task Force just listen and not provide any feedback. Mr. Fenstermaker stated he believes some questions need to be answered, but should be answered in a timely manner and then proceed. Mr. Harmison suggested the Task Force allow speakers to have time to be seated, then one or two members can address question if needed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.